

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1, 2, 16, 17, 31, and 31 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend the claims as follows:

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A network system for a network having plural nodes connected, wherein a node belonging to said network ~~is provided with~~ comprises:
 - a learning frame management unit which refers to a MAC SA table cache to determine whether a learning frame transmission request corresponding to said MAC SA has been ~~is made~~ or not,
 - a MAC forwarding table memory which stores an output port for a destination MAC address and tag operations, and
 - a the MAC SA table cache which stores a source MAC address (MAC SA) which has made a learning frame transmission request.
4. (Currently Amended) The network system as set forth in claim 3, wherein said nodes ~~are provided with~~ comprise:
 - an aging request acceptance unit which ages ~~of~~ said MAC SA table cache, and
 - a transmission request unit which makes a learning frame transmission request to a CPU.
5. (Original) The network system as set forth in claim 4, wherein said nodes have a learning management program which conducts a learning frame process.

6. (Currently Amended) A network system for a network having plural nodes connected, wherein a node belonging to said network ~~is provided with~~ comprises:
a learning management program which conducts a learning frame process; and
a software table,
wherein a network control program uses a set of memory duplicate information to
perform an entry search in the software table.
7. (Currently Amended) The network system as set forth in claim 3, wherein said node has an equipment control program which conducts a variety of ~~configuration~~ configurations.
8. (Currently Amended) The network system as set forth in claim 3, wherein said node ~~is provided with~~ comprises a frame type judgment unit which judges an input frame.
9. (Currently Amended) The network system as set forth in claim 3, wherein a node belonging to said network ~~is provided with~~ comprises:
an aging control unit which ages an entry to be aged, and
an aging management table which stores an entry to be aged.
10. (Canceled).
11. (Currently Amended) The network system as set forth in claim 3, wherein said node ~~is provided with~~ comprises a broadcast table memory which stores an output destination port at ~~the~~ a time of broadcasting to a tag.

12. (Currently Amended) The network system as set forth in claim 3, wherein said node is provided with comprises a tag forwarding table memory which stores an output port for a forwarding tag.
13. (Currently Amended) The network system as set forth in claim 3, wherein said node is provided with comprises:
 - a table[,] ;
 - an aging circuit; and
 - a forwarding table having a table read/write circuit.
14. (Currently Amended) The network system as set forth in claim 3, wherein said node is provided with comprises a TAG address management table which stores an address of a forwarding tag on a MAC forwarding table memory.
15. (Currently Amended) A network system for a network having plural nodes connected, wherein a node belonging to said network also applies a learning function of ~~Ethernet to a flow which flows asymmetrically~~ sends an asymmetrical main signal frame to an Ethernet while maintaining a learning information.
- 16-17. (Canceled)
18. (Currently Amended) A learning bridge node of a network having plural nodes connected, comprising:
 - a learning frame management unit which refers to a MAC SA table cache to

determine whether a learning frame transmission request corresponding to said MAC SA has been made or not,

a MAC forwarding table memory which stores an output port for a destination MAC address and tag operations, and

a the MAC SA table cache which stores a source MAC address (MAC SA) which has made a learning frame transmission request.

19. (Original) The learning bridge node as set forth in claim 18, comprising:

an aging request acceptance unit which ages a MAC SA table cache, and

a transmission request unit which makes a learning frame transmission request to a CPU.

20. (Original) The learning bridge node as set forth in claim 19, comprising a learning management program which performs learning frame processing.

21. (Currently Amended) A learning bridge node for a network having plural nodes connected, comprising:

a learning management program which performs learning frame processing; and
a software table,

wherein a network control program uses a set of memory duplicate information to
perform an entry search in the software table.

22. (Currently Amended) The learning bridge node as set forth in claim 18, comprising an equipment control program which makes a variety of configuration configurations.

23. (Original) The learning bridge node as set forth in claim 18, comprising a frame type judgment unit which judges an input frame.
24. (Original) The learning bridge node as set forth in claim 18, comprising:
 - an aging control unit which ages an entry to be aged, and
 - an aging management table which stores an entry to be aged.
25. (Canceled).
26. (Currently Amended) The learning bridge node as set forth in claim 18, comprising a broadcast table memory which stores an output destination port at the a time of broadcasting to a tag.
27. (Original) The learning bridge node as set forth in claim 18, comprising a tag forwarding table memory which stores an output port for a forwarding tag.
28. (Currently Amended) The learning bridge node as set forth in claim 18, comprising:
 - a forwarding table having a table[.] ;
 - an aging circuit; and
 - a table read/write circuit.
29. (Original) The learning bridge node as set forth in claim 18, comprising a TAG address management table which stores an address of a forwarding tag on a MAC

forwarding table memory.

30. (Currently Amended) A learning bridge node for a network having plural nodes connected, wherein ~~a learning function of Ethernet is applied to a flow which asymmetrically flows. the network sends an asymmetrical main signal frame to an Ethernet while maintaining a learning information.~~

31-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A learning method of a network having plural nodes connected, wherein a node belonging to said network:

refers to a MAC SA table cache to judge whether ~~or not~~ a learning frame transmission request corresponding to said MAC SA has been made, and

stores a source MAC address (MAC SA) which has made a learning frame transmission request in said MAC SA table cache, and

stores an output port for a destination MAC address and a tag operation in a MAC forwarding table memory.

34. (Original) The learning method as set forth in claim 33, wherein said node performs aging of said MAC SA table cache and makes a learning frame transmission request to a CPU.

35. (Original) The learning method as set forth in claim 34, wherein said node is provided with a learning management program which performs learning frame processing.

36. (Currently Amended) A learning method for a network having plural nodes connected, wherein a node belonging to said network ~~is provided with~~ comprises:
a learning management program which performs learning frame processing; and
a software table,
wherein a network control program uses a set of memory duplicate information to
perform an entry search in the software table.
37. (Currently Amended) The learning method as set forth in claim 33, wherein said node ~~is provided with~~ comprises an equipment control program which makes a variety of configuration.
38. (Original) The learning method as set forth in claim 33, wherein said node discriminates an input frame.
39. (Original) The learning method as set forth in claim 33, wherein a node belonging to said network performs aging of an entry to be aged and stores an entry to be aged in an aging management table.
40. (Canceled).
41. (Currently Amended) The learning method as set forth in claim 33, wherein said node stores an output destination port at the ~~a~~ time of broadcasting to a tag in a broadcast table memory.

42. (Original) The learning method as set forth in claim 33, wherein said node stores an output port for a forwarding tag in a tag forwarding table memory.
43. (Currently Amended) The learning method as set forth in claim 33, wherein said node is provided with comprises a forwarding table having a table [,] ;
an aging circuit; and
a table read/write circuit.
44. (Original) The learning method as set forth in claim 33, wherein said node stores an address of a forwarding tag on a MAC forwarding table memory in a TAG address management table.
45. (Currently Amended) A learning method for a network having plural nodes connected, wherein a node belonging to said network ~~also applies a learning function of Ethernet to a flow which flows asymmetrically. sends an asymmetrical main signal frame to an Ethernet while maintaining a learning information.~~